

DCPS STRATEGIC PLAN

Virtual Listening Session Summary

Virtual Session Overview:

On Saturday, October 1, 2022, DCPS leadership engaged with listening session participants through the Zoom virtual platform. As part of the event's agenda, attendees engaged by listening to an opening presentation led by DCPS leadership, followed by robust group breakout sessions and report-outs. During these exercises, attendees were asked to share their feedback around four main topical questions:

- What does a welcoming and affirming school community look like for all students, families, and staff?
- What can we do to ensure equitable programming and policies across all of DCPS?
- What do our students need academically, socially, and emotionally to reach their full potential?
- What resources do our staff, families, and students need to ensure all students thrive?

Summary of Feedback:

What does a welcoming and affirming school community look like for all students, families, and staff?

- Staff equipped with excellent customer service training, skills, and standards for better interactions with students, families, and community
- Respectful of each other's space and opinions
- Ensuring that translations and language inclusion are available
- Having an inclusive community, no matter what you look like or where you come from
- Bilingual school personnel, specifically security staff can be helpful
- Create a better space for learning, investing in the building

What can we do to ensure equitable programming and policies across all of DCPS?

- Seamless, easy-to-navigate "in-house" school programs to connect coordinated resources to families and students
- Empower parents, families, and guardians to have a voice at the decision-making table
- Use data as a single measure and not a whole indicator and consider the holistic experiences of students and families
- Development of school task forces to assist with immediate concerns and engagement
- Dismantle geographical inequities within the DCPS system
- Support students' technical needs

What do our students need academically, socially, and emotionally to reach their full potential?

- Additional support and resources to help schools work with partners to identify students who need assistance.
- Safe, brave, and vulnerable environments in which students are not afraid to ask for help around foundational subjects
- Consistent teachers inside the classroom

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- Consider expanding better food options for students
- Create the space for students to communicate if they are struggling mentally and provide resources and support to help them
- Foster enrichment opportunities outside of school
- Workshops for teachers around classroom management, ensuring trust between staff and students

What resources do our staff, families, and students need to ensure all students thrive?

- Additional teaching staff, small class sizes
- Opportunities and designated space for students to learn at their own pace